



**INTERPRETATIONS & APPLICATIONS
OF BUILDING CODES & REGULATIONS #96-1**

CODE SECTION : IBC 3109, IRC AG101

02/06/96 rev. 9/16/03

SUBJECT : POOL BARRIERS - MISCELLANEOUS OPENINGS

The swimming pool barriers sections of the amended International Building Code, and International Residential Code require that a barrier be installed between a pool and a house on the same property unless the wall of the house forms part of the barrier. Exceptions to this requirement are allowed where doors that have direct access to the pool enclosure are self-closing and self-latching, or have appropriate alarms.

The Building Code limits the opening size in barriers to 4 inches, or 1 3/4 inches depending upon configuration.

Therefore miscellaneous openings into the enclosed pool area, such as "doggie doors", must have a dimension of less than 4 inches, or be self-closing and latching, or have appropriate alarms. Existing openings may be closed through the use of tamper-proof screws or other permanent approved means.